

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/873,176

Examiner

Brian R. Gordon

Applicant(s)

SAFIR ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8-12-04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-66 and 68.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 August 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 8-12-04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brian Klein on December 13, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Cancel claim 67.

Claim 58. A parallel, semi-continuous or continuous reactor comprising four or more semi-continuous or continuous reaction vessels for containing liquid reaction mixtures, each of the four or more reaction vessels is hermetically sealable and has having a volume of not more than about 1 liter, at least four liquid feed lines in selectable fluid communication with each of the four or more reaction vessels, each of the at least four liquid feed lines being in fluid communication with one or more liquid reagent source vessels, four or more modular feed-line subassemblies releasably received in receiving ports in the reaction vessels or in a reactor block that defines or contains the reaction vessels, each of the four or more feed-line subassemblies supporting two or more of the at least four liquid feed lines feeding a respective reaction vessel.

Claim 59. A parallel, semi-continuous or continuous reactor comprising four or more semi-continuous or continuous reaction vessels for containing liquid reaction mixtures,

each of the four or more reaction vessels is hermetically sealable and has ~~having~~ a volume of not more than about 1 liter, at least four liquid feed lines in selectable fluid communication with each of the four or more reaction vessels, each of the at least four liquid feed lines being in fluid communication with one or more liquid reagent source vessels, each of the at least four liquid feed lines comprising at least a first section and a second section in fluid communication with each other, the second section being releasable with respect to the first section and having a distal end positioned within a respective one of the reaction vessels.

Claim 60. A parallel, semi-continuous or continuous reactor comprising four or more semi-continuous or continuous reaction vessels for containing liquid reaction mixtures, each of the four or more reaction vessels is hermetically sealable and has ~~having~~ a volume of not more than about 1 liter, at least four liquid feed lines in selectable fluid communication with each of the four or more reaction vessels, each of the at least four liquid feed lines being in fluid communication with one or more liquid reagent source vessels, each of the at least four liquid feed lines having a distal end positioned within the reaction vessel, the distal end of one or more of the liquid feed lines being positioned lower in the reaction vessel relative to the distal end of one or more other of the liquid feed lines.

Claim 61. A parallel, semi-continuous or continuous reactor comprising four or more semi-continuous or continuous reaction vessels for containing liquid reaction mixtures, each of the four or more reaction vessels is hermetically sealable and has ~~having~~ a volume of not more than about 1 liter, at least four liquid feed lines in selectable fluid

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communication with each of the four or more reaction vessels, each of the at least four liquid feed lines being in fluid communication with one or more liquid reagent source vessels, one or more of the at least four liquid feed lines having an inside diameter or cross-sectional flow area that differs from the inside diameter or cross-sectional flow area for another of the at least four liquid feed lines.

Drawings

2. The drawings were received on August 12, 2004. These drawings are acceptable.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-66 and 68 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not teach nor fairly suggest the embodiments of the invention as disclosed (see applicant remarks filed August 12, 2004 and September 28, 2004).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Meier, Daniel J. et al.; DeBruin, Bruce Roger; Cracauer, Raymond F. et al.; Brennan, Thomas M.; Carnahan, James Claude; Burns; David H. et

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al.; Jelinek; Jan et al.; Huang; Wu-Liang et al.; Titmas; James A.; Chowdhury; and Ajit K. et al. disclose reactor systems.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian R. Gordon whose telephone number is 571-272-1258. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, with 2nd and 4th F off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jill Warden can be reached on 571-272-1267. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

brg


Jill Warden
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1700